

Message Text

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ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03

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----- 073355

R 150001Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9442

UNCLAS MEXICO 7271

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MILI, MX
SUBJ: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: A) STATE 177789; B) MEXICO A-55, JANUARY 28, 1972

1. UNDER MEXICO'S FEDERAL LAW OF FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 26, 1972 (REPORTED REF B), THE MEXICAN
GOVERNMENT IS CHARGED WITH CONTROL OF MANUFACTURING, TRANS-
PORTATION, IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION, AND SALE OF ARMS, AMMUNITION
AND RELATED MATERIALS. REGULATION OF THE LAW EFFECTIVE
JUNE 5, 1972 ESTABLISHES FEDERAL ARMS REGISTER AND SPELLS OUT
IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES OF LAW. SECRETARIAT OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FIREARMS CONTROLS. INTERIOR HAS
SOME RESPONSIBILITIES AS WELL.

2. MEXICO REQUIRES IMPORT LICENSE, ISSUED BY DEFENSE. DEFENSE
REPRESENTATIVE MUST AUDIT COMMERCIAL IMPORTS BEFORE THEY CAN
BE RELEASED FROM CUSTOMS. INDIVIDUALS NEED SPECIAL PERMITS FOR
IMPORT OF ARMS PURCHASED ABROAD. ILLEGAL IMPORTS ARE
SANCTIONED BY 1 TO 15 YR. PRISON TERM AND A FINE OF
100 TO 100,000 PESOS. FINANCE DECREE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 5,
1975 SETS 500-PESO FEE FOR BOTH ORDINARY AND SPECIAL
IMPORT LICENSES, AND FEES FROM 100 TO 400 PESOS DEPENDING
ON THE TYPE OF FIREARM FOR SPECIAL PERMITS.

3. ALL FIREARMS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH DEFENSE. THERE ARE
NUMEROUS RESTRICTIONS ON THE TYPES WHICH CAN BE HELD PRIVATELY.
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IF KEPT IN THE HOME, THEY MUST BE REGISTERED WITHIN 30

DAYS OF ACQUISITION; ANY LOSS, ROBBERY, ALTERATION, ETC.
MUST BE REPORTED. ADDITIONAL LICENSES ARE REQUIRED TO
CARRY A GUN OUTSIDE ONE'S HOME. SPECIAL PERMISSION IS REQUIRED
TO OWN MORE THAN ONE FIREARM. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS,
FACTORIES ETC. ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT IN DETAIL ACTIVITIES TO
DEFENSE ON MONTHLY BASIS. DEALERS SELLING FIREARMS
TO INDIVIDUALS MUST IDENTIFY BUYER, OBTAIN PERSONAL DATA, AND
FINGERPRINTS, NOTE DETAILS OF THE TRANSACTION, GIVE BUYER A
COPY OF THE DOCUMENT AND REMIT THE ORIGINAL TO DEFENSE WITHIN 24
HOURS OF THE TRANSACTION.

4. COPY OF MEXICAN LAWS BEING POUCHED.

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